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## COAL PRODUCTION under Pressure

The P'ing-maiang, An-yuan and Kac-k'eng coal fields, under the direction of the West Kiengsi Coal Mine Bureau, are under pressure to increase production to meet the demands of railroads, factories, power plants, and the people of Shang-hai and Man-ching. The railroads include the Cheking--Kiangei, the Kwangtung--Han-k'cu, the Ch'ang-sha--Han-ch'ang, and the Pei-p'ing--Haa-k'on Four million US dollars of US aid has been extended and contracts for machinery are being combuded between the National Resources Commission and the US commercial firm, P'i-erh-esu [Pierce] Company.

Since 26 Movember 1948 a 1,000-kilowatt generator installed in the Ch'uanchang-yen power plant has been furnishing power for the Pling-heising Mine. Another 1,000-kilowatt generator is now being installed and case of 2,000 kilowatts is being transported from Shang-hai. When all the generators are in operation, the mine will pass from the stage of hand-labor extraction to that of mechanized emeraction and become the only mechanized mine south of the Ch'ang Chiang (Yangt's River).

As a corollary to increased production, transportation facilities are also to be mtended. A branch line has been constructed from kee-keens to Chiuan-chiangiyen, to connect with the Chekiang-Kiangel Railroad. The line provides convenient transportation of coal from Kau-k'eng shafts, No 1 and No 5, to the Pai-wa-ch'so depot, where it is leaded and dispatched. Coal from shafts No 4 and No 5 at Wang-chia-yuan and all shafts at An-yuan, however, must be carried to the depot by hand, which results in a waste of time and money. The Mining Bureau has therefore decided to construct an overhead cableway from Wang-chia-yuan to Pai-ma-ch'ao. Sables, lumber and from frames are being prepared. It has also been decided to haild a light railroad between P'ing-heieng and An-yuan.

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